

Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

Date: October 4, 2006

Inspector: Lee Curtis, Susan Infalt, BSC Group

Location: Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane, 345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill, and Norwalk Section)

Storm/

Rain Event: According to accuweather.com, 0.45" of rain were recorded on 10/1 and 0.25" were recorded on 10/4 (Data from NOAA is still incomplete).

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd and an access road passing through the Archers Lane station 10/04/06.	-NA	-NA
Composite	-Restoration work is complete within the Archers Lane ROW and access road. Stone crossings and temporary mats have been removed from wetland crossings and disturbed areas re-graded to original conditions and hay mulch and seed applied. 10/04/06. See Erosion Control Section for more detail.	-Continue to monitor until stabilized. Replace remaining silt fence with haybales or remove fence when the area revegetates. 10/04/06.	-NA
	-Water bars remain in the access road near the first wetland crossing to divert water flow and decrease the potential for erosion within the road. 9/29-10/04/06.	-Place haybales at the downgradient outlet of each water bar to prevent sediment flow to the wetland until this area is stabilized. 9/29-10/04/06.	-NA
		- Restore in a similar manner to the work at	-Needs attention.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
345kV H-Frame	-The stone crossing remains at the wetland crossing near structure #34 off Gallows Hill Road. 10/04/06.	Archers Lane. 10/04/06.	
	- Work areas are accessed from various roadways. Restoration is nearing completion in this section. Some mats had been removed from the Bethel Reservoir section and crews were in the process of removing the last crossing at Chestnut Ridge. 10/04/06.	-Continue restoration and replace silt fence with haybales in appropriate locations. Remove mats when restoration activities are nearing completion. 10/04/06.	-Restoration is underway
Norwalk Section	- Erosion continues along the access road near structure #31 but haybales seem to be containing sediment. 7/19-10/04/06.	-Continue to monitor and keep stone out of any resource areas. Haybales currently contain the sediment. 7/26-10/04/06.	-Needs evaluation.
	- No sediment tracking was noted in Kent Road from the ROW access to the north this week. There was no active work here at the time of inspection. 10/04/06.	- Continue to maintain this entrance and sweep street when necessary. Add more clean stone if needed. 7/19-10/04/06.	-NA
	-It appears that restoration activities have not yet begun in the Kent Road north section of ROW. Mats remain in the wetlands in this section. 10/04/06.	- Continue restoration and clean up in previously disturbed areas. Restore as near as possible to original conditions. 10/04/06.	- Needs attention
	-Restoration activities have begun in the Kent Rd south section. Wetland crossings remain matted. Haybales and silt fence at the wash out areas are deteriorating. 9/20-	- Maintain hay bales at wash out areas until this area is stabilized. Remove mats from wetland areas when restoration activities are nearing completion. 9/20-10/04/06.	-Needs attention

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<p>345kV H-Frame</p> <p>Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.</p>	<p>areas this week. 10/04/06.</p> <p>- Water bars were constructed to divert flow in several locations and reduce erosion. Haybale check dams were also installed within the road as a temporary erosion control measure. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Disturbed areas within the ROW off Gallows Hill Road have been seeded and mulched, and are beginning to re-vegetate. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>-The stone crossing remains at the wetland crossing near structure #34 off Gallows Hill Road. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts (seed and mulch) are nearly complete along the ROW in the Bethel Reservoir and Chestnut Ridge Road. Significant grass growth was noted in most seeded areas. Mats still need to be removed from some sections. 10/04/06.</p> <p>-The area around structure #9 had re-vegetated, but a new area of disturbance remains</p>	<p>-Place hay bales at the down-gradient outlets of the water bars to prevent sediment flow to the wetland while this area is stabilizing. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out, including areas immediately off the ROW. 4/6-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Continue restoration in previously disturbed areas and ensure that materials are not forgotten in place. 10/04/06.</p> <p>- Restore in a similar manner to the work at Archers Lane. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>-Continue to remove access roads and monitor. Active mat removal and restoration in the road was noted in the Chestnut Ridge Section. 10/04/06</p> <p>-The exposed soil should be restored and vegetated. 8/30-10/04/06.</p>	<p>-Water bars were constructed to divert flow and reduce erosion</p> <p>-Needs similar attention as at Archers Lane.</p> <p>- Grass growth was noted in seeded areas.</p> <p>-Needs attention.</p> <p>-Grass growth noted in restored areas.</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way	<p>up-gradient of the pole 8/30-10/04/06.</p> <p>- The area adjacent to pole #10 has been restored but some tracking was noted in the restored area. A few small stockpiles were noted here this week. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Restoration efforts (seed and mulch) are complete along the ROW off John Todd Way and Lime Kiln Road. Significant grass growth was noted in the restored areas at Costa Lane. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Mats remain at the wetland crossing within the ROW off Costa Lane. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded but erosion has returned, despite the haybales. 7/19-10/04/06.</p>	<p>-Contractors should repair this area as part of the final restoration efforts. Remove stockpiles before restoration activities are complete. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Remove silt fence near structures #24 and 25. Silt fence could remain near the access road off John Todd Way due to the private contractor in this area. 10/04/06.</p> <p>- Continue to remove access mats and monitor. 10/04/06.</p> <p>- Keep all stone/sediment from entering resource areas and investigate alternative stabilization measures. 7/19-10/04/06.</p>	<p>-Needs attention</p> <p>-Significant grass growth noted in restored areas.</p> <p>-Grass growth noted in restored areas.</p> <p>-Needs evaluation.</p>
Norwalk Section			
Broad Street, Perry Ave, and North Seir Hill Road.	<p>- The ROW off Perry Ave north and North Seir Hill Road have been regraded but not seeded. 9/7-10/04/06.</p> <p>- It appears additional vegetation was cleared from the slopes adjacent to the stream bank at structure #11064. This area was gated and locked at the time of inspection. It is unknown whether this area has been seeded or</p>	<p>-These areas should be restored/seeded as soon as possible. Generally, the end of fall seeding is Oct 15th. 10/04/06.</p> <p>-Install and maintain hay bales along both sides of the stream to prevent sediment from entering the stream channel. Restore (mulch and seed) this area ASAP. 9/29-10/04/06.</p>	<p>-Needs seed and mulch.</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Kent Rd. (North)	<p>mulched, or the stream protected by erosion controls. 9/29-10/04/06.</p> <p>- Hay mulch and seed have been applied to the area at pole #11080 near the substation but washouts in the mulch were noted. The silt fence here is stressed. 10/04/06</p> <p>- Grass growth was noted in the restored areas off Broad Street north and the Rt 7 extension following restoration. 10/4/06</p> <p>- The disturbed areas at Kent Road (north) have not been seeded or mulched. Some areas don't appear to have been graded back to original conditions. 9/29-10/04/06.</p>	<p>- Repair silt fence and monitor until the area is stabilized with vegetation. 10/04/06.</p> <p>-Continue to monitor but the area is becoming stabilized. 10/4/06</p> <p>-These areas should be restored/seeded as soon as possible. Generally, the end of fall seeding is Oct 15th. 9/29/06.</p>	<p>- Restoration was noted but still needs attention</p> <p>-Grass growth was noted in some areas.</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>
Kent Rd. (South)	<p>- Silt fence remains along both banks of the stream and near the foundation at the pond in the Kent Rd north section. 7/19-10/04/06.</p> <p>- The work areas at Kent Road (south) have been re-graded to original conditions and seed and hay mulch applied. Mats still need to be removed. 9/29-10/04/06. Grass growth was noted in restored areas. 10/04/06.</p> <p>- Stone from the access road continues to washout beyond the erosion controls into the</p>	<p>-Continue to monitor and maintain as needed. Restore areas and replace silt fence with haybales. 10/04/06.</p> <p>-Monitor until stabilized with vegetation. 10/04/06.</p> <p>- Stabilization options for the stone access road should be evaluated. 920-10/04//06. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due to the drainage patterns. 7/12-10/04/06.</p>	<p>-NA</p> <p>-Grass growth noted in restored areas.</p> <p>-Needs attention</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	wetland. Silt fence/haybales here are deteriorating. 9/29-10/04/06.		
Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation Composite	-The stone and mats have been removed from the wetland crossings along the Archers Lane ROW and the road has been re-graded to original condition. 9/29-10/04/06.	Silt fence will be removed when vegetation has established (or replaced with haybales in appropriate locations). 9/29-10/04/06.	-Stone and mats have been removed from wetland crossings.
345kV H-Frame	- The wetland crossing at Gallows Hill needs to be removed. 9/29-10/04/06	-Restore in a similar manner to wetlands at Archers Lane. 9/2910/04/06	-Needs attention.
	-Crews had removed some mats from the wetland crossings in the Bethel Reservoir ROW and were removing the last crossing at Chestnut Ridge this week. All restored areas are re-vegetating rapidly 10/04/06.	- Continue to monitor until stabilized. Silt fence should be replaced with haybales in appropriate locations. Remove mats from wetland crossings when restoration activities are nearing completion. 10/04/06.	- Vegetative growth noted within restored areas.
Norwalk	-Mats remain at wetland crossings. Some areas have not yet been restored. 9/29-10/04/06.	-Continue restoration activities. 9/29-10/04/06.	-Some restoration efforts noted.
	-The disturbed slopes adjacent to structure #11064 had not yet been seeded or mulched and the stream channel was not protected by erosion controls as of the 9/29/06 inspection. This section was gated and locked this week. 10/04/06.	-Install hay bales along both sides of the stream to prevent sediment from entering the stream channel. 9/29-10/04/06.	-Needs attention
State species of concern, threatened and endangered species	- The composite portion of overhead work includes state-listed turtle habitat area. 9/15-10/04/06.	- Continue daily walkthroughs prior to equipment movement in this area. 4/6-10/04/06.	-N/A at this time

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	-An Eastern box turtle was noted crossing the access road near structure #7 in the Chestnut Ridge Rd section on 6/14/06.	- Perform walkthroughs in this new section as well. 6/14-10/04/06.	-N/A
Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted)	- Adjacent homeowners near Gallows Hill mentioned damage to mountain laurel and other shrubs. 3/2-10/04/06.	-Replace shrubs where approved during these restoration efforts. 10/04/06.	-Needs attention when feasible
Composite	- A significant amount of chips were blown off the ROW into the upland and also along the wetland edge at the 3 rd structure off Gallows Hill. These areas are off property. 2/22-10/04/06.	- Chips currently off ROW boundaries should be removed carefully to comply with the D&M plan. 2/22-9/20/06. Chips on ROW should be spread to a depth of 3". 4/6-10/04/06.	- Still needs attention CL&P is looking into this.
345kV H-Frame	- Widespread restoration efforts were noted. Many recently restored areas have good grass cover. Log piles remain within the ROW from previous clearing efforts. 9/29-10/04/06.	- Remove excess wood before mats are removed from wetland crossings. 9/29-10/04/06.	-Restoration activities noted.
Dewatering	- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection and should no longer be necessary. 10/04/06.	- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. 3/9-10/04/06.	-N/A at this time
Blasting	-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 10/04/06.	-None at this time. 10/04/06.	-N/A
Spills and Material Storage	-No spills or drips were noted along the route this week. 10/04/06. - In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource areas or as far as feasible. 10/04/06	- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) - Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst-case scenarios. - Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled. - Avoid refueling in the	-NA

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
		areas near the wetlands.	
Additional Observations			

Next likely scheduled inspection: Friday October 13, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Inspector's Signature: Diana Walden for Lee Curtis and Susan Infalt, BSC Group



(Composite Section): Photo on the left shows that haybales have not yet been placed at the water bar outlets within the access road at Archers Lane. Photo on the right shows grass growth at the first wetland crossing. Silt fence remains along the access road. 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows significant grass growth in the restored area at structure #34 off Gallows Hill Road. Photo on the right shows a view of the remaining stone wetland crossing here that needs to be removed. 10/04/06.



(345kV H-Frame): Photo on the left shows a view of the continued erosion in the access road near structure #31 off Costa Lane. Photo on the right shows increased grass growth in the restored areas along the ROW. 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows the restored area at structure #25 off Lime Kiln Road. Silt fence should be removed here. Photo on the right shows the private contractor continuing to work within the restored section of ROW off John Todd Way. 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows mats remaining at the first wetland crossing within the Bethel Reservoir section of ROW. Photo on the right shows piles of logs and brush remaining within the ROW here. 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows small stockpiles at structure #10. Equipment is also being stored here. Photo on the right shows the small disturbed area remaining at structure #9. 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows crews removing mats from the ROW access off Chestnut Ridge Road and restoring the access as they go. (Norwalk Section): Photo on the right shows mats remaining along the ROW off Kent Road (south). 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows a view of a restored area within the ROW off Kent Road (south). Minimal grass growth was noted this week. Photo on the right shows wash outs continuing within the stone access road here. Haybales are deteriorating and some stone remains in the wetland. 10/04/06.



Both photos show areas that have not been restored in the ROW off Kent Road (north). All disturbed areas should be re-graded to original conditions and seed and hay mulch applied. 10/04/06



Both photos show disturbed areas that do not appear to have been restored within the ROW off North Seir Hill Road. Most areas were gated and locked at the time of inspection. 10/04/06.



Both photos show areas within the ROW off Perry Ave (north). Photo on the left shows spare structure arms being stored near structure #11074 off Perry Ave. All old materials should be removed. Photo on the right shows one of the areas that has not been restored in this section. 10/04/06.



Photo on the left shows significant grass growth in the restored areas off Perry Ave (south). Photo on the right shows a view of the restored area near structure #11080. Storm water runoff from the paved bike path is washing out the seed and hay mulch into and pushing the silt fence down. Grass growth was not noted at the time of inspection. 10/04/06